



EYES ON THE BAY

your link to bay health

July 2013



What Can I Do?



Protect diamondback terrapins by installing *By-catch Reduction Devices* (BRD), also known as Turtle Excluder Devices (TED), on all your older crab pots. A BRD is easy to install and allows crabs to enter the pot but prevents diamondback terrapins from entering and drowning. [More info...](#)

Bay Fact



Governor O'Malley addresses Congress of Educators.

From the desk of...

Martin O'Malley, Governor of Maryland

Earlier this month the BayStat team met to review Maryland's progress toward our [Chesapeake Bay Program two-year milestones](#). I am very pleased to note the Environmental Protection Agency has confirmed that we have already achieved our 2013 nitrogen and sediment targets and are within 1 percent of reaching our phosphorus goal by the end of the reporting period in December.

Leading to this success, during 2012 Marylanders planted 408,000 acres of cover crops (115% of our goal), retrofitted stormwater management on 72,000 acres of urban land (93% of our goal) and exceeded our Wastewater Treatment Plant goals for nitrogen and phosphorous reduction by 2 million pounds and 27,000 pounds respectively. We also permanently preserved more than 25,000 acres of land, greatly exceeding our goals in four out of five programs.

Thanks to the work of the 2013 General Assembly, new and expanding efforts will help us continue our steady progress. The Landmark Forest Preservation Act will ensure we maintain or increase our existing forest cover, which stands at 40 percent. A new agriculture certainty program will provide incentives for farmers to



The diamondback terrapin is Maryland's reptile, our State university mascot, and the only turtle that lives its entire life in the tidal waters of the Chesapeake Bay.

adopt restoration practices and a new phosphorus management tool will identify agricultural areas at risk of contributing excess phosphorus loads to the Bay. Our Fiscal Year 2014 budget includes \$68 million to accelerate both State and local efforts to improve Bay health through the Chesapeake and Coastal Bays Trust Fund. And finally, MDE is issuing permit revisions to implement the Bay Total Maximum Daily Load in Anne Arundel, Prince George's and Baltimore counties.

These are among the better choices we are making together that are garnering better results for our citizens and our Bay.

[Follow Eyes on the Bay on Twitter](#)



More news

[Anne Arundel students build a better, or at least less problematic, crab trap](#)

[Fowler leads spiritual mission for river cleanup](#)

[One man's trash is another man's pay dirt](#)

[Oyster restoration: a growing cause](#)

[Recycling oyster shells benefits restaurants, environment](#)

[Scientists predict smaller than average dead zone for Chesapeake Bay](#)

Quick Links

[More About BayStat](#)

Eyes on the Bay Water Quality Website

The Chesapeake's dead zone - volume of low dissolved oxygen - was smaller than average for early June 2013. For full details, visit the [Eyes on the Bay publication](#). Updates on the dead zone status will be posted every two weeks during the summer.

BayStat Update

At its most recent meeting, the BayStat team approved Maryland's next 2-year milestone goals, which started on July 1, 2013, and considered new approaches for reporting progress with the annual Chesapeake Bay Report Card.

Your Government at Work

Governor O'Malley and Educators Meet to Restore Maryland Streams

In a first of its kind effort, Governor Martin O'Malley met with teachers and educators from across the State on July 2 to explore how the next generation of Marylanders can help restore the Bay, one stream at a time. The meeting, arranged in collaboration with the Maryland Partnership for Children in Nature, set the groundwork for the ongoing partnership. [Learn more...](#)



Funding for Clean Water and the Chesapeake Bay

The Maryland Board of Public Works approved more than \$16 million in Maryland Department of the Environment grants to reduce pollution and improve water quality by upgrading septic systems and replacing meters in a drinking water system. [Learn more...](#)



[How to Use BayStat](#)[Eyesonthebay.net](#)[Eyes on the Bay
Newsletter Archives](#)

Agricultural Certainty Oversight Committee Appointed

The Agricultural Certainty Oversight Committee was appointed to develop the regulations necessary to implement the Agricultural Certainty Program, which was passed by the General Assembly during the most recent legislative session. This will allow farmers who voluntarily implement advanced best management practices to conduct their business without additional regulations for ten years. [Learn more...](#)



DNR Helps Fund a New Urban Park in Baltimore

The Chesapeake and Coastal Bay Trust Fund has provided \$153,000 in funding to support the installation of new innovative concrete in an ultra-urban setting in the New Broadway East Community Park in Baltimore. The concrete - used to create park paths and a parking lot - allows polluted rainwater runoff to flow through to the ground, keeping it out of local streams and waterways. [Learn More...](#)



Portions of Eastern and Prospect Bays Opened for Shellfish

The Maryland Department of the Environment is reclassifying portions of the Eastern Bay and Prospect Bay in Queen Anne's County to allow oysters and clams to be harvested at any time. [Learn More...](#)



Contact Info

Important: Please add baystat@dnr.state.md.us to your address book to make sure we don't get caught in your spam filter.

For comments and suggestions regarding this newsletter, please send an email to baystat@dnr.state.md.us